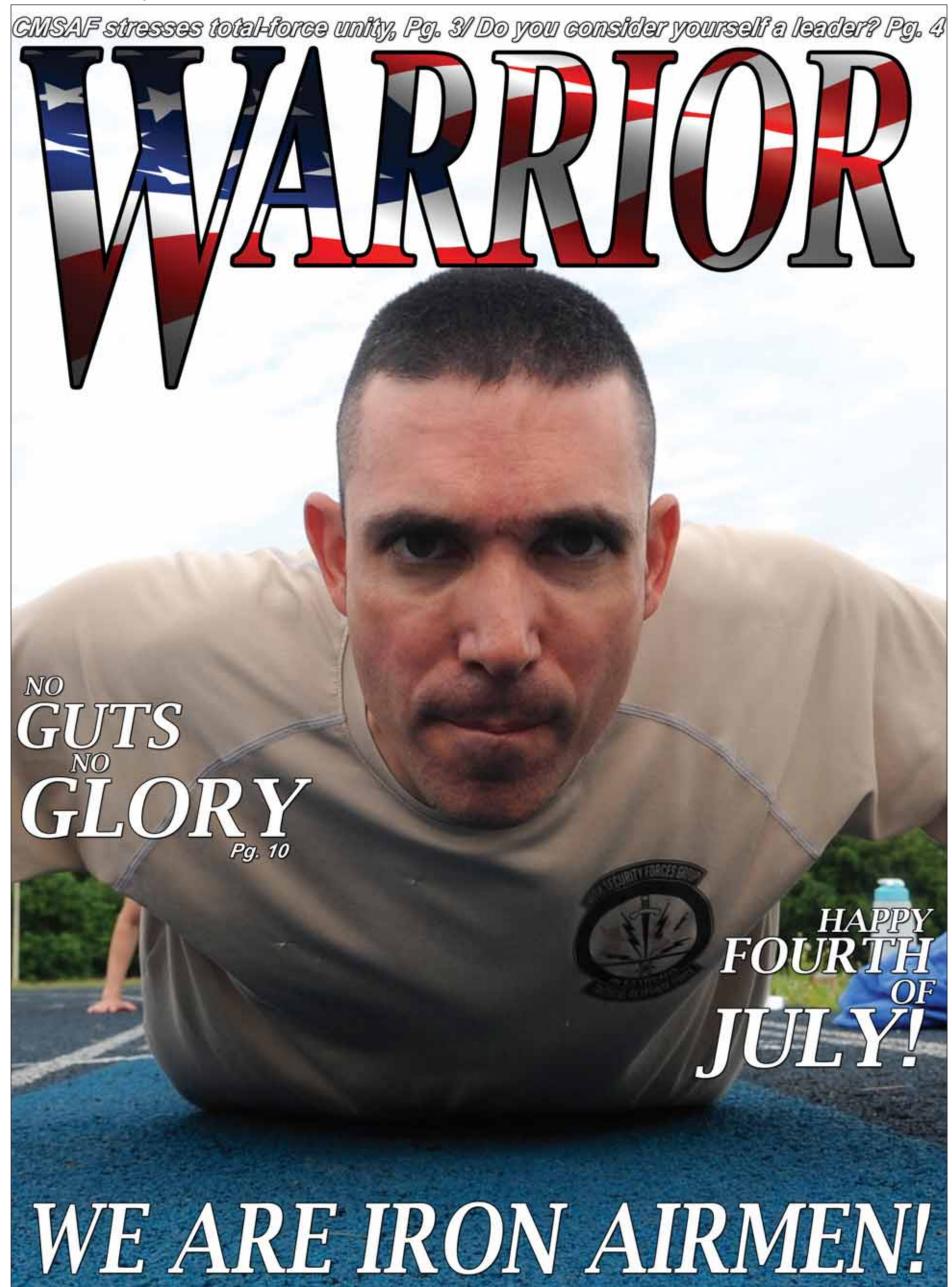
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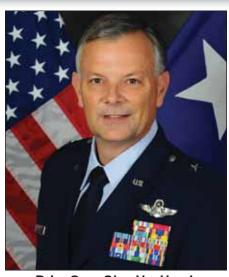
Commentary

Team Whiteman,

It's that time of year again – time to enjoy a spectacular fireworks show, to take a long weekend to relax and recharge from the busy summer season, and most importantly, to reflect on the significance of July 4th and what it stands for. While taking this long weekend, I ask that you think about a few things.

First, do not overlook the reason why we as a nation celebrate this holiday. On July 4th, 1776, a group of Americans came together and signed a document that would help give birth to a nation and change the course of history. They declared to the world that freedom and liberty were causes to be championed, and took no small amount of personal risk in doing so. To defend that nation, however, would require more than ideals; it would require action, and it would require a strong defense. Today, our Air Force continues a proud military heritage of defending the ideals upon which our country is founded, and which are embodied in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

These documents, so central to who we are as a nation, demonstrate the pervasive power of the pen, and every one of you, whether you operate, maintain or support the B-2, proves the farreaching and compelling power of the sword. Your efforts on a daily basis are critical to providing our nation's political and military leaders



Brig. Gen. Glen VanHerck 509th Bomb Wing Commander

with credible nuclear deterrence options and strategic long-range strike capabilities in defense of our nation and our allies. Your work, day-in and day-out, enables the country to defend those things which make us great, those things worth fighting for.

On this July 4th weekend, take a moment to reflect on your contributions to defending freedom and protecting liberty, and if you feel that your efforts don't make a difference, believe me when I say they absolutely do. Look no further than our recent operations at RAF Fairford in the U.K. – when the B-2 moves, the world watches. Never lose sight of the role you play in the larger mission, and though I have not yet had the chance to meet all of you individually, I am proud to be a part of the 509th with you.

Second, I need you to stay safe this weekend. With fireworks, boating and long road-trips on the horizon for many of you, I ask you to do a couple of things. First, have a plan in place. Know how far you're going to drive on a particular leg of your trip. Let family and friends know where you will be. Second, take a moment to think about risk management. Don't try to complete that long drive to family's house in one sitting when you should rest in between driving periods. Don't abuse alcohol, and never use it if you plan on driving a car, piloting the boat or enjoying fireworks. Don't put yourself unnecessarily in situations that could land you in the emergency room.

Team Whiteman is more than just a team; we are a family, and every one of you is an important part of that family, and I need you all back here Monday ready to press forward again in pursuit of our global power mission. In the meantime, though, enjoy this time with friends and family, be safe and remember to commemorate this special day for our nation. I am proud to lead you all, and I am excited about all we will achieve going forward.

A Walkabout Leadership

By Chief Master Sgt. Michael J. Scobey 509th Communications Squadron

There is something to be said about being visible and approachable. It's time to get out from behind your desk and see what you're missing. In a time where the Air Force has a lot of stressors impacting everyone's lives from home to work, it's even more important to be there to help your Airmen and be a good wingman.

If you are a leader and no one knows who you are, how effective do you think you are? Do you know your Airmen at all levels? Do they know you? Do you know what is going on with them at their work centers or home? I am not saying to pry into lives but you should be able to know when something is wrong or when they are struggling and be there to offer help. How well do you, know your Airmen and peers?

Knowing your Airmen applies to all levels, not just from leadership to Airmen but from Airman to Airman. Face-to-face meetings make you more approachable than an impersonal e-mail or phone call. Much can be gained by looking someone in the eyes and reading the non-verbal cues they present. Sometimes all it takes is a "How is your day going?" and a handshake to get someone to open up or just make their day go better. Maybe a thank you for what they are doing or "Is there anything you need help with?" is all they need. Be in touch with those you work with. Show you are interested in their work conditions, problems and welfare.

I once had a commander who, every day, would go walking around the squadron buildings. He passed on to the Airmen in the squadron that if you had a question or just wanted to talk he would be around at this time. This afforded a chance for anyone to get informal time with the commander and to present issues or just time to discuss the weather. Because of this he was very much in touch with the issues and the good things happening in the squadron. This in turn, made the squadron a more cohesive unit.

Most individuals are afraid to stop by their supervisor's or chief's office; they are especially hesitant to drop in on a commander. When is the last time you stopped by the first sergeant's office and just asked how his or her day was?

As a leader at any level, if you do not see your Airmen, how do you know when there is a problem? In the world of digital communications, face-to-face can sometimes be the starting point to see what you have been missing and what needs to be addressed. Take the time to be seen, get out from behind your desk, be a better leader, mentor and wingman. To paraphrase Gen. Louis L. Wilson Jr. in a work called "Advice to Commanders. . . 10 Points," get out from behind your desk!

How will you live it?

Chief Master Sgt. Stuart Allison 509th Mission Support Group

Some in the military get training, learn new tools and strategies, and then immediately apply what they have learned—thus making themselves and others around them better.

Others attend training, get inspired and fired up, get excited, but unfortunately have the need to attend training again in six months because they fail to implement what they have learned.

Some attend training, get inspired and fired up, get excited, and immediately try to inspire, motivate and develop others with their new set of powerful tools and strategies. However, they never personally live the new tools and strategies.

What is the difference between those



U.S. Air Force photo /Airman 1st Class Keenan Berry Chief Master Sgt. Stuart Allison is the superintendent of the 509th Mission Support Group at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo.

three groups?

The first group lived their training and it is that philosophy that I want to share with you today. That first group learned how to "live it."

The philosophy comes in five steps:

First, you must make a conscious decision to use the tools and strategies gained during training. A deliberate choice leads to a deliberate action.

Second, create a crystal clear vision for the person you want to be.

Third, design a road map to the results you want.

Fourth, take massive action daily to live your plan.

And finally, measure your actions so you can fine tune your plan.

See How will you, page 11

THE WARRIOR

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509th Bomb Wing Commander

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The deadline for article submissions to the Warrior is noon Friday. If a holiday falls on Friday, the deadline then becomes 4 p.m. Thursday.Articles will be published on a space-available basis. Submissions does not guarantee publication.

For more information, call the Warrior office at 660-687-6126, email: Whiteman. Warrior@us.af.mil, fax us: 660-687-7948, or write to us at: 509th Bomb Wing, 1081 Arnold Ave., Bldg. 59, Whiteman AFB, Mo., 65305.

To advertise in The Warrior, call the Sedalia Democrat at: 1-800-892-7856.

On the cover

U.S. Air Force photo/ Staff Sgt. Alexandra M. Boutte Chief Master Sgt. Shawn Drinkard, 509th Bomb Wing command chief, performs push-ups during the Iron Airman Challenge.

NEWS BRIEFS

Water Quality Report

The annual water quality report for 2013 is now available on the Whiteman web page under the Environmental tab.

Spirit Café

Don't have plans for Friday evening? Go to the Spirit Café!

Not sure what to eat on Friday evening? Go to the Spirit Café!

Want to enjoy a rousing game of Titan Falls? Go to the Spirit Café!

Free food every Friday evening, comrades to enjoy it with, and lots of games and movies!

It sounds so good I want to go to the Spirit Café too! So, don't waste time. Tell a friend and take a friend to the Spirit Café today!

Telephone news line set up for retirees

A toll-free telephone news line has been set up for retirees and surviving spouses who do not have computer access.

By calling 1-800-558-1404, retirees and spouses can stay informed using this new easy-to-use menu-driven service. Callers can select from several different topics that are compiled from various electronic news sources.

Topics include pay and annuity matters, medical and health care, and other benefits and entitlements.

CCAF GEM Program

Military members avoiding taking classes because of work shifts, deployments or other time constraints have a new program to assist them. Community College of the Air Force degree requirements can be met through distance learning using the CCAF General Education Mobile (GEM), a partnership between CCAF and other schools. For more information call (660) 687-2420.

Air Force Housing Web Site

Visit www.Housing.af.mil to find your new home with the Air Force. This web site serves as a one-stop shop for Airmen and their families to obtain information about the housing options and support services available to them at Air Force bases worldwide.



WEATHERTodaySaturdaySunnyChance of StormsHi 81Hi 84Lo 58Lo 64SundayMonday

Mostly Sunny Mostly Sunny Hi 89 Hi 90 Lo 69 Lo 72

CMSAF stresses total-force unity



Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody addresses Airmen during an enlisted call June 24, 2014, on Robins Air Force Base, Ga. During his visit, Cody met with more than 2,000 Reserve, Guard and active-duty Airmen and spoke about key issues in the Air Force.

By Staff Sgt. Kelly Goonan 439th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. (AFNS) -- There is no distinction among Airmen within the Air Force components when it comes to how they perform their jobs, how they live up to standards and how they embrace the service's core values, said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody during a visit here June 24-25.

"Robins (AFB) is a great example of our Air Force," he said during an enlisted call. "I'm looking out at all of you, and you represent the United States Air Force. We have four distinct components — active duty, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve and civilian employees. Together they make up our United States Air Force."

For the past 20 years, the reserve components have been called upon and have served in the same capacity as their active-duty counterparts. According to Cody, they offer unique strengths — strength in community and resiliency in units — because they are able to stay connected for longer periods of time.

"What our reserves bring to the table is their civilian experience," Cody said. "A different level of depth than active-duty Airmen, who predominately focus on the way they must do their Air Force job."

Because there is only one Air Force, Cody explained that all Airmen must understand and appreciate the fundamental differences between the components. The unity among the active duty, Guard, Reserve and civilians is crucial to the Air Force mission.

"Airmen serve worldwide," Cody said. "When they are where the nation needs them to be, we don't have this discussion. We just see Airmen doing what our nation calls them to do, but somehow when we get back home we revert back to this 'I'm in the Guard, I'm in the Reserve, I'm in the active duty.' No, you are in the United States Air Force."

In addition to speaking to the importance of unified components, Cody talked about the challenges facing today's Air Force.

"We're going to be a smaller Air Force," he said. "Where we maintain capability and capacity is important for what our nation is going to ask us to do."

Cody said fiscal challenges are forcing tough and sometimes unpopular decisions. He assured the Airmen that they and their families are always a major consideration.

"The future will always change and if we don't shape it ourselves we will be shaped by it," he said. "The fact is that what you do has purpose to our nation and is impacting people around the world. Don't lose sight of that. You and your families are without question our most valuable asset. Our nation treasures each and every one of you."

AF to every Airman: Tell us your story

By Staff Sgt. Torri Ingalsbe

Air Force Public Affairs Agency, Operating Location – P

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Air Force leaders want Airmen to share their stories with the world and designed the 2014 American Airman Video Contest with that purpose in mind.

"Every Airman has a story -- and smartphone technology now allows those Airmen to share those stories to a wider audience than ever before," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh, III.

The contest, which begins July 1, asks Airmen to shoot a selfie video where they share individual stories of service and showcase the unique missions they do every day.

"I think we'll get some really creative, cool videos that together, tell the larger Air Force story," Welsh said.

Airmen who want to participate should upload their video, which should be no longer than 30 seconds, to a personal YouTube account and email a link to the Air Force Social Media team at usafvideos@us.af.mil.

The videos will be reviewed to ensure they don't inadvertently violate any security, policy or propriety guidelines before they are released for public viewing on the AFBlueTube channel on YouTube.

After review, each major command will select a winner within the command. The 10 finalists' videos will be will be available on AFBlueTube for public voting from Aug. 12 to 22. Voters can "like" their favorite videos and the video with the most "likes" will win.

The winning video will be shown at the September Air Force Association conference in Washington, D.C., which attracts thousands of visitors annually and receives heavy media attention.

Contest officials said there are important rules participating Airmen should follow, including:

• The contest is open to Guard, Reserve and active-duty Airmen to participate

• Finalists must be in good standing without any adverse administrative actions

For more details and complete contest rules, visit http://airforcelive.dodlive.mil/contest.

"Our Airmen are an amazing communication resource," Welsh said. "No one tells the Air Force story like they do."

News



We're saving a seat for you.

FRIDAY, JULY 4 CLOSED

SUNDAY, JULY 6 • 3 p.m. A Million Ways to Die in the West (R) Adults - \$5.75 SATURDAY, JULY 5 • 7 p.m. X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG-13) Adults - \$5.75, children - \$3.75 WEDNESDAY, JULY 9 • 2 p.m. Mr. Peabody and Sherman (G) Adults - \$2.00, children - \$1.00

Cell phone use on base: Think before you speak

Cell phone use while driving on base has always been against regulation, but effective immediately, those who use their phones while driving will face the following penalties:

First Offense: 30-day suspension of driving privileges on base.

Second Offense: up to 6 month suspension of driving privileges.

Third or any subsequent offense: up to 1 year suspension of driving privileges.

Help keep Whiteman a safe place to live and work. If you need to use your phone, use approved hands-free devices, or wait until you're out of your car. More information coming soon.

Do you consider yourself a manager or a leader?

By Master Sgt. Cameron St. Amand Whiteman Career Assistance Advisor

Management and Leadership are not synonymous. While a manager must deal with the planning, controlling, and organizing aspects of the job the act of leadership is a separate function that addresses a vital area of concern in today's operating environment; coping with change. While managers push people in the right direction by controlling them, leaders are capable of motivating and inspiring people to do the right thing. Oftentimes leaders are also good managers; however, managers are not necessarily considered to be good leaders.

There are thousands of publications on the market to help you find your leadership niche, but one of the best references available is Chapter 10 of Air Force Pamphlet 36-2241, Professional Development Guide. This resource is available in hard copy format, or you can find the complete publication along with MP3 audio files and

e-reader files online at http://www.pdg.af.mil/ free of charge. Take the brief self-evaluation found on page 220 to discover where you can focus on developing your leadership abilities.

Leadership is not limited to the top ranks of the organization, but it is found throughout. Even the newest Airman has the opportunity to lead every day, on or off duty, in or out of uniform. With the number and scope of changes (implemented and pending) our Air Force faces in the areas of personnel, aircraft, evaluations, promotions, etc., effective leaders are needed at all levels to stay focused on mission accomplishment while taking care of the Airmen who accomplish that mission in this dynamic environment.

So do you consider yourself a manager or a leader?

WAFB Career Assistance Advisor, 687-7829 Professional Development Ctr, Rm 109 Twitter: @WAFB CAA

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WHITEMAN SCHEDULE SUMMER 2014

Classes may be cancelled or added depending on enrollment. THE FOLLOWING CLASSES ARE NOW FORMING:

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5pm- 9:20pm Humanities T-Th SESSION 3B (JULY 21st- AUG 22nd) 5pm- 9:20 pm College Algebra M-W

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Feature



Airman 1st Class Keenan Berry

Maricel Koehler, 509th Force Support Squadron housekeeper, vacuums a hallway at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., June 25, 2014. The Whiteman Inn plays a key roles in providing quality first impressions for visitors.

By Airman 1st Class Keenan Berry 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

There is a refreshing scent in the air, a welcome mat to greet visitors, friendly smiles behind the front desk to greet guests making them feel at home.

This is the atmosphere of the Whiteman Inn here on base.

The Whiteman Inn offers rooms for all branches of the Armed Forces as well as retirees, Department of Defense civilians and their family members with the convenience of being located on base.

Like many hotels, the staff of the Whiteman Inn consists of supervisors, receptionists, accountants, managers, house keepers and maintenance workers. Each has a significant role that affects the hotel's operations.

Lodging contributes to the Whiteman mission by providing outstanding customer service.

"These qualities are important because they allow visitors to form good lasting opinions of Whiteman and enjoy their stay," said Staff Sgt. Renton Espejo, 509th FSS front desk supervisor. "For most visitors, we are the first people they see when they come to Whiteman. So we must be at our best."

The front-desk supervisor deals with various tasks to benefit hotel operations.

"I oversee customer services, deal with distinguished visitor reservations, and make group reservations for inspection teams," Espejo said. "When there are customers, I ensure they receive necessary assistance to accommodate them. I coordinate with protocol to arrange DV reservations and coordinate group point of contacts to meet mission requirements for inspection teams." The front desk supervisor also makes arrangements for aircrews on a daily basis and service Guard units while they are on drill status or temporary duty.

Along with the front desk supervisor, the guest service representatives work the front desk to greet and assist customers.

"The guest services representatives offer assistance with reservations and check-ins, and handle all guest complaints," said Lindsay Hall, 509th FSS front desk supervisor. "If there are issues, they report them to the front desk supervisors and we inform housekeeping and maintenance to respond to the situations."

The operations manager handles services such as labor, linen, security and safety. The guest service manager oversees customer service and the front desk supervisors. The housekeeping manager handles the cleanliness of the hotel and supervises housekeepers. The supply technician ensures the employees and guests have the various supplies they need and the general manager is responsible for all the hotel's operations.

Every manager is responsible for different duties which deal with different aspects of the hotel.

The accountant takes care of the financial aspects of the hotel.

"I help set up budgets for end of month finances to keep the Whiteman Inn on track of where they stand with accounting budgets," said Trista Riffe, 509th FSS lodging accountant. "I also handle payroll for all employees, keep track of all employee s working schedule along with leave to make sure employees are accurately paid."

The housekeeping manager has the important job of supervising house keepers, as well as performing cleaning tasks

to keep rooms in a presentable order.

"My job is to oversee housekeeping operations," said Susan Wike, 509th FSS housekeeping manager. "I assign tasks early in the day to housekeepers and perform room inspections. We have golden eagle standards which is a form per Air Force Instruction regulations that we abide by to ensure the rooms are kept in order. It's a standardized item I go over with the housekeepers to let them know our expectations. I use room inspection checklists to inspect rooms and inform the housekeepers of any demerits, improvement and overall room status. I also schedule tasks monthly in advance to allow the housekeepers enough time to plan accordingly in case of personal matters or leave."

Distinguished visitor houses are used for DVs such as a newly promoted general, a person whose relative has passed away, or the secretary of defense. Whether DVs or not, all guests are treated with the same level of respect and care.

The busiest time of the year for Lodging is the summer due to TDY travels, permanent changes of station and in and out-processing. Guests on a TDY or PCSing, stay in the Whiteman Inn until it is time for them to leave.

Each job is important and plays a vital role in helping the Whiteman Inn accomplish its mission of outstanding customer service and good first impressions.

"We are aware of the importance in how we affect the Whiteman mission," said Senior Airman Justin Stewart, 509th FSS guest services representative. "We strive to just fulfill each guests needs with quality and convenient service. We are the first and last people most visitors see before their departure. We must ensure they are satisfied."

Kansas City T-Bones host military appreciation day



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Bryan Crane

A joint-service team from Whiteman Air Force Base conducted a flag detail at the Kansas City T-Bones baseball game, Saturday, June 28, 2014. The T-Bones hosted the Whiteman members for Military Appreciation Night. The T-Bones would go on to defeat the Gary South Shore Rail Cats 9-6.

Welcome To

KNOB NOSTER JUST OUTSIDE WHITEMAN AIR FORCE BASE

LOCAL ACTIVITIE

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month - Basement of City HallAllBasement of City HallBasement of City Hall

Lion's Club-2nd & 4th Mon. 7 p.m. - Jubilation Center Chamber of Commerce-2nd Thurs. of each month.

Call Husineh Curts @ 660-238-6201 for more info. Masons-2nd & 4th Thurs. 7:00 p.m. - Knob Noster Masonic Lodge AF & AM

Garden Club–1st Thurs. of each month 6:30 p.m. - Trails Regional Library - Knob Noster Branch Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)–Every Fri. 8 p.m. -Basement of Methodist Church • Every Mon. Noon - Bldg. 3007, Behind Chapel "The Old Housing Office" at WAFB

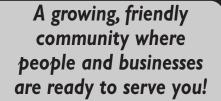
Knob Noster Board of Aldermen-1st & 3rd Tues. each month - Basement of City Hall

Whiteman Area Piecemakers Quilt Guild–3rd Thurs. each month 7 p.m. - Methodist Church

AMVETS-Membership Dinner 1st Tues. each month 6 p.m. - AMVETS Building

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Girl Scouts - Jo Ellen Elwell 563-3514

Freedom of Road Riders, Local 33 - 3rd Sun. 1 p.m. -AMVETS Building

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News

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Top III award

How to stay safe this July 4

Airman 1st Class Adrian Quichocho, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron aerospace ground equipment journeyman, receives the Whiteman Top III Award at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., June 19, 2014. Quichocho was recognized for his work in and out of the shop. Quichocho finished his career development courses with a score of 91%, coached and mentored four Special Olympic teams, completed more than 230 Honor Guard hours and briefed the group commander on risk management during the Maintenance Focus of the Day.

By Tech. Sgt Christopher Gunn Assistant Chief of Fire Prevention

The 4th of July is our nation's birthday and a day of celebration complete with backyard barbecues, family and friends gathering, and spectacular firework shows.

However, according to Whiteman AFB Instruction 32-2001, the use of any fireworks is unauthorized on this installation without the written authorization from the Base Fire Chief, Weapons Safety Manager and the Mission Support Group Commander.

If you decide to purchase consumer fireworks and go off base to set them off safety should be a priority. According to the National Fire Protection Association, in 2011, fireworks caused an estimated 17,800 reported fires, including 1,200 total structure fires, 400 vehicle fires and 16,300 outside and other fires. These fires resulted in an estimated eight reported civilian deaths, 40 civilian injuries and \$32 million in direct property damage.

Fireworks have long been a tradition for celebrating our nation's independence, but people can get hurt, burned or even killed if they are not used safely.

Here are some safety tips on fireworks, so that you and your family can enjoy Independence Day.

• Parents and caretakers should always closely supervise teens if they are using fireworks.

• Parents should not allow young children to handle or use fireworks.

Fireworks should only be used outdoors.Always have water ready if you are shooting fireworks.

• Know your fireworks. Read the caution label before igniting.

U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Bryan Crane

• Obey local laws. If fireworks are not legal where you live, do not use them (Whiteman AFB does not allow fireworks on base.)

• Alcohol and fireworks do not mix.

• Wear safety glasses whenever using fireworks.

• Never relight a "dud" firework. Wait 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water.

• Soak spent fireworks with water before placing them in an outdoor garbage can.

• Avoid using homemade fireworks or illegal explosives: They can kill you!

Safety tips for sparklers:

• Always remain standing while using sparklers.

• Never hold a child in your arms while using sparklers.

• Never hold, or light, more than one sparkler at a time.

• Never throw sparklers.

• Sparkler wire and stick remain hot long after the flame has gone out. Be sure to drop spent sparklers in a bucket of water.

• Teach children not to wave sparklers, or run, while holding sparklers.

Whiteman AFB Fire Emergency Services want you and your family to be safe on this day of celebration. If you have any questions about fire prevention or fire safety, please contact our Fire Prevention/Public Fire Education Office for information at 687-6080/6083/6374.

For more safety tips, log on to our Facebook page at Whiteman AFB Fire Emergency Services.



Whiteman Airmen participate in first Iron Airman competition

By Staff Sgt. Alexandra M. Boutte 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

All Airmen must maintain fitness standards as a mission readiness requirement, and Team Whiteman members are consistently finding new ways to not only meet, but exceed, those standards.

The Iron Airman Challenge, the first of which was conducted Friday, June 27, is a new competition hosted by the Whiteman Cycling Team and consists of pullups, push-ups, sit-ups and a two-mile run.

"This competition is important because our Defender Avengers understand that just meeting the standard is never enough," said Capt. Christopher Conant, 13th Bomb Squadron. "The challenge is designed to push Airmen of all levels to better their physical fitness, challenge their previously held beliefs in what they can do and break down the barriers preventing them from becoming the absolute best they can be -- Iron Airmen.

There were approximately 40 Airmen from Whiteman who participated in the challenge.

Iron Airman was derived from various military services' PT standards. For example, the max push-ups number came from the Navy and Air Force Academy tests, while the two-mile run was a combination of the Air Force and Army tests.

To become an Iron Airman, the individual must complete all four events, each worth 100 points, in less than 30 minutes and score a minimum of 360.

A perfect 400 would require a male to complete 21 pull-ups, 91 push-ups, 100 sit-ups and a two-mile run in 12 minutes and 16 seconds or less, whereas a female had 13 minutes and 50 seconds.

This challenge is for every Airman eligible.

"The challenge promotes resiliency and reaffirming our core value, excellence in all we do," said Tech. Sgt. Tony Rodriguez, 509th Operations Support Group assistant chief controller.

The kind of individual that will succeed in this competition is one who is devoted to physical fitness, and will also train Airmen to succeed on the PT test.

"I was extremely proud to grind it out and dig deep with my fellow Whiteman teammates," said Chief Master Sgt. Shawn Drinkard, 509th Bomb Wing command chief. "This event showcased the perseverance and drive our Airmen have. A team that trains and sweats together, wins together."



lenge is to reward and encourage Airmen who demonstrate commitment to going above and beyond minimum PT standards.



Chief Master Sgt. Shawn Drinkard, 509th Bomb Wing command chief, counts push-ups for Airman 1st Class Jordon Myers, 509th Maintenance Squadron, during the Whiteman Iron Airman competition conducted at the fitness center, June 27, 2014. Myers pushed out 98 push-ups during the challenge and received third place with an overall score of 377.

U.S. Air Force photos/Staff Sgt. Alexandra M. Boutte



ups during the Whiteman Iron Airman competition conducted at the fitness center. June 27, 2014. She completed eight pull-ups for this event. Ring received first place with an overall score of 342.



Whiteman Airman participate in the first event of pull-ups during Whiteman's first Iron Airman competition, Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., June 27, 2014. Individuals completed in four events, pull-ups, push-ups, sit-ups and a two mile run.

News

'No Guts, No Glory': Airmen honor legendary fighter pilot



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Aaron J. Jenne

Betty Blesse, wife of retired Maj. Gen. Frederick "Boots" Blesse, stands with Lt. Col. Donn Yates after the unveiling of her late husband's monument during a memorial dedication ceremony, June 27, 2014, on Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C. The memorial was constructed at the front of the 334th FS, the unit Blesse was assigned to when he recorded his 10th aerial kill. Yates is the 334th Fighter Squadron commander.

By Airman 1st Class Aaron J. Jenne 4th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

SEYMOUR JOHNSON AIR FORCE BASE, N.C. (AFNS) -- The pursuit of excellence is reflected in the Air Force core values and is an integral part of each Airman's service.

Current and former Airmen alike assembled to posthumously recognize the accomplishments of retired Maj. Gen. Frederick "Boots" Blesse, an Air Force ace pilot, during a memorial dedication ceremony June 27, at the 334th Fighter Squadron here. According to those who knew and served with Blesse, he exemplified excellence.

Due to his distinguished career and legacy, 334th FS officials said it was only fitting they create a memorial commemorating the accomplishments of their former ace pilot.

During the ceremony Blesse's widowed wife, Betty, joined Lt. Col. Donn Yates, the current 334th FS commander, to unveil a memorial statue in Blesse's honor. The nearly 6-foot tall stone monument, which stands at the entrance of the 334th FS building, depicts a bust of Blesse and the reminder 'No Guts, No Glory.'

"We established this memorial to remind our incoming students as well as our outgoing graduates that it is our warrior spirit that will often be decisive in any future conflict," Yates said. "Their mindset must rely on the training they received here as well as their aggressiveness during the performance of their duties."

Blesse made a name for himself while serving as the operations officer of the 334th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron during the Korean War. During his voluntary assignment at Kimpo Air Base, South Korea, the then major revolutionized the air-to-air combat tactics of the squadron. At the conclusion of his tour, Blesse was widely recognized as one of the Air Force's top aces, having destroyed or irreparably damaged more than 15 enemy aircraft. He went on to serve more than 30 years in the Air Force, including a tour in Vietnam, before retiring as the Air Force' deputy inspector general. He passed away in October 2012.

The ceremony also featured a flyover consisting of current and past aircraft assigned to the wing. Two F-15E Strike Eagle aircraft flew over the dedication ceremony, followed by two F-4 Phantoms II aircraft, to honor Blesse, who flew the Phantom II during his tour in Vietnam.

"The legacy of General Blesse is something for us to look up to and try to emulate in our careers," said 1st Lt. Joshua Judy, a 334th FS pilot in training. "Flying with the 334th and knowing what he's done for our squadron's history, it gives me pride to know where we came from and the leaders that were here before us."

Yates said he hopes that the memorial will serve as a motivator to those who serve in the squadron in the future as well as a reminder of how much Blesse has done for the Air Force.

"General Blesse is precisely the type of

warrior we seek to emulate and produce in our students," Yates added. "This monument will serve as a lasting testament of General Blesse's life and service and will inspire Airmen for generations to come. We will all remember his legacy of excellence."

Betty also expressed her gratitude for her husband's recognition.

"I'm so humbled to be here," Betty said. "To think they would do all this to recognize my husband is amazing. I know he would have loved it."



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Aaron J. Jenne Betty Blesse, wife of retired Maj. Gen. Frederick "Boots" Blesse, watches as two F-4 Phantom IIs fly overhead during a memorial dedication ceremony, June 27, 2014, on Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C. Blesse flew the Phantom II during his tour in Vietnam, he had a total of 108 combat missions and 46 sorties.



Air Force Critical Days of Summer 2014 23 May – 2 Sept 2014

Contributed by the 509th Bomb Wing Safety Office

Chapter 6: The Jerk

- Air Force Summer Losses: (Jun-Sep) 2009-2013
- 3 fatalities
- 62 injuries
- Total cost, injuries: \$369,003

Civilian population risk data:

- 2011 fireworks caused an estimated 17,800 reported fires.
- 2011 fires resulted in 40 civilian injuries and \$32M in property damage.
- 2011 emergency rooms treated an estimated 9,600 firework related injuries.

Integrity First... and responsibility are not mutually exclusive concepts; quite the opposite. A person of integrity is a responsible person. When planning off-duty holiday celebrations, doing the "right thing" is the action which will prevent mishaps. The Fourth of July is an important holiday in our country's history and celebrating safely is the responsibility of all Airmen.

We look forward to spectacular fireworks displays sponsored by many organizations – wherever you're stationed. There are many locations where certain types of fireworks are legal for individual use. If your July 4th celebration includes fireworks – even "just" sparklers – beware. Many injuries are caused and fires started with sparklers and fireworks.

According to the National Safety Council, in 2010, fireworks caused an estimated 15,500 reported fires, including 1,100 structure fires. These fires resulted in an estimated 8,600 people treated in emergency rooms for fireworks-related injuries, 61 percent of whom were over 15 years of age. Nothing should be taken for granted if you are using fireworks. The following mishap illustrates what can happen when setting off fireworks: On 4 July, an Airman and a friend decided to create a fireworks display for their friends

and family. The Airman placed the fireworks onto a piece of dunnage in the corner of the backyard as a launching point. He began lighting the fireworks and stepped back approximately 10 feet in order to look up and watch the display. Somehow, a firework tipped over. Someone told the Airman the firework had fallen over and was coming at him. While the friend had barely finished the warning, the firework struck the Airman in the right eye. He was admitted to the hospital for two days, undergoing surgical repair for a lacerated right retina and ruptured globe. He received 90 stitches and placed on convalescent leave for a month. He didn't weigh the risk and didn't think it could happen to him.

There are many websites with safety tips for using fireworks. Below is a summary:

• Never disassemble or try to make your own fireworks.

• Don't point sparklers, or fireworks at yourself or others, especially while they're being lit.

- Only light fireworks on the ground and in areas that are dry and fire resistant.
- Don't attempt to light multiple devices at the same time.
- Never allow young children to handle fireworks or sparklers.

• Always keep a portable fire extinguisher close by. Also keep a water hose or buckets of water nearby to put out fires.

Enjoying the fireworks is only one part of most July 4th celebrations. Barbeques are also part of the day for many. Review all the safety tips in Chapter 11 to be sure you're ready for your grilling adventure.

More information to stay safe this 4th of July:

Additional resources:

http://www.protection1.com/home-security-systems/learn/home-security-basics/safety-tips/4th-of-july-safety-tips/

http://www.cpsc.gov/en/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Fireworks/ http://fireworkssafety.org/?page_id=188

http://www.americanpyro.com/state-law-directory

How will you Continued from Page 2

Your plan leads to your actions; without it, you could be flying without any controls or guidance systems.

You take care of the first step with training, but what about the second step? How can you begin to create the vision of the service member that you want to be? How can you begin to create the vision of your service?

Imagine for a moment of others who have inspired you? What actions did they take? What words did they say? How did they live each day?

Now think about others that failed to inspire you. What words did they say? How did they live each day?

You've known others that talk a big game; they pay lip service to effective leadership. You can tell who they are easily; they talk the most and loudest yet have accomplished little.

How will you live each day? What will you say? How

will you act?

Who are your outstanding leadership role models? How can you mirror them?

Take those answers and create your road map for your daily actions. Reflect on a regular basis to make adjustments when necessary.

There's a philosophy, popularized by my mentor, coach, and friend, Jairek Robbins, for how we change ourselves; how to become the people we want to be.

It is called, "Learn it, live it, give it."

First, you must "learn it." You accomplish this during training and how you approach your service afterwards.

Next, "live it." Servicemen and women who excel at their work allow their positive actions to inspire and lead others around them. There's a quote from Ghandi, "Be the change that you wish to see in the world." I challenge you, "Be the change you wish to see in your unit."

Once you have learned and lived your mission, it will be your turn to "give it." You will evolve into the mentor—into the leader who develops great leaders.

In closing, I want to ask you a few questions:

How will others respect you? How will your superiors view you? What will that say to your team?

Are you willing to repeat a training exercise "until it's right" and not just "close enough?" What will that say to those around you?

Will you be someone whose actions are remembered? Or, will you be a member whose words are seldom heard and forgotten?

How you turn your thoughts into actions, how you apply the tools from training, and how you act—all of those things matter the most. They all determine how you "live it."

12 The Warrior
July 4, 2014Feature**Gunning for the future**to pick up
you need to
that goes it

By Senior Airman Bryan Crane 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Have you ever been sitting home watching "We Were Soldiers" or "Black Hawk Down" thinking to yourself, "Man, that would be really cool, shooting a machine gun out of a helicopter?"

Staff Sgt. Mathew Tidball, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels hydrants supervisor, is making that dream become reality as he cross-trains into Special Missions Aviation.

Tidball has completed three of his five training courses in pursuit of becoming an aerial gunner on a UH-1 Huey helicopter.

After growing up in Nashville, Michigan, Tidball decided to join the Air Force in 2008, feeling it would be the right fit for him.

"When I first joined the Air Force, I wasn't sure if I wanted to make it a career," Tidball said. "I was looking at it more for the experience and the only goal I really had was to make staff sergeant my first time."

Tidball would complete that goal and after three years, he decided he wanted to make it his career.

Through his first six years in the Air Force, Tidball has been lucky to see a lot of the world. His career has taken him to Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington; Kunsan AB, South Korea; Mildenhall AB, England; and Whiteman. Tidball has also deployed four times -- three times to Manas AB, Kyrgyzstan and once to Moron AB, Spain. Working in the fuels career field has been a pleasant experience for Tidball, who believes the people he has met throughout this career is the best part. After five years working as fuels distribution operator and supervisor, fuels service center technician, fuels accountant and now fuels hydrants supervisor, he has gained a tremendous sense of appreciation for his team's role.

"I really enjoy being part of the support group and helping the mission from behind the scenes," Tidball said. "It's cool to know that I could refuel a jet today and tomorrow it's in another country putting in work, indirectly putting warheads on foreheads."

The goal of seeing more direct results from his work motivated him to search for a career in the operations side of the Air Force.

"I knew I wanted to go to the ops side, so I looked into a variety of aircrew jobs," Tidball said. "I quickly decided I wanted to be an aerial gunner and put in to cross-train into Special Missions Aviation."

After being accepted for his new career, Tidball began his first training course Jan. 10, 2014 at Lackland AFB, Texas. His first course was Aircrew Fundamentals, a 10day course that any flyer or sensor operator must attend.

Tidball next returned to Lackland for a two-month course for three-level training.

"So far the hardest part of my training has been the three-level course," Tidball said. "There was so much technical information that you've never seen before that they try to cram it all in so fast. It's not easy to pick up all the information as quickly as you need to, so there is a lot of mental work that goes into it."

The most recent course he has attended was the survival, evasion, resistance and escape (SERE) course that consisted of 19 field days, two water survival days and one day specifically for helicopter crews called the "dunker."

"The most fun I've had in my training so far was definitely our six days stuck in the woods during SERE," he said. "We had to kill, skin and cook our own rabbit and as an avid hunter that part was fun for me and overall it was a unique experience that not everybody gets to do."

The final two courses he will have to attend will be the longest of his journey. His next stop will be Maxwell AFB, Alabama, to attend a two-and-a-half month course called Career Enlisted Aviator Rotary-Wing Fundamentals. During this course he will begin his hands-on training with his weapons and aircraft.

Following his trip to Maxwell AFB, Tidball heads to Kirtland AFB, New Mexico, to complete his initial qualification training, which will last four to five months. Once complete, he will become an official Special Missions Aviation technician and move to Malmstrom AFB, Montana.

During the breaks between courses, Tidball returns to Whiteman and continues his duties supervising the Airmen in the fuels shop.

"It's a shame to lose a supervisor like Sgt. Tidball," said Tech. Sgt. Robert Peterson, 509th LRS fuels hydrants supervisor. "Even in the middle of his cross-training, he still comes in motivated and willing to work every day."

Tidball is looking forward to not having a standard day-to-day job.

"This opportunity is something that few get a chance to do," Tidball said. "I'm excited -- one day I could be flying patterns doing nuclear support, the next there could be a hiker lost that we have to go help. You never know what each day is going to bring and it's a thrill I look forward to."



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Bryan Crane Staff Sgt. Matthew Tidball, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels hydrants supervisor, inspects a sample of JP-8 jet fuel at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., July 1, 2014. Before beginning to cross-train, Tidball worked as fuels distribution operator and supervisor, fuels service center technician, fuels accountant and fuels hydrants supervisor, his current job.

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The Warrior July 4, 2014



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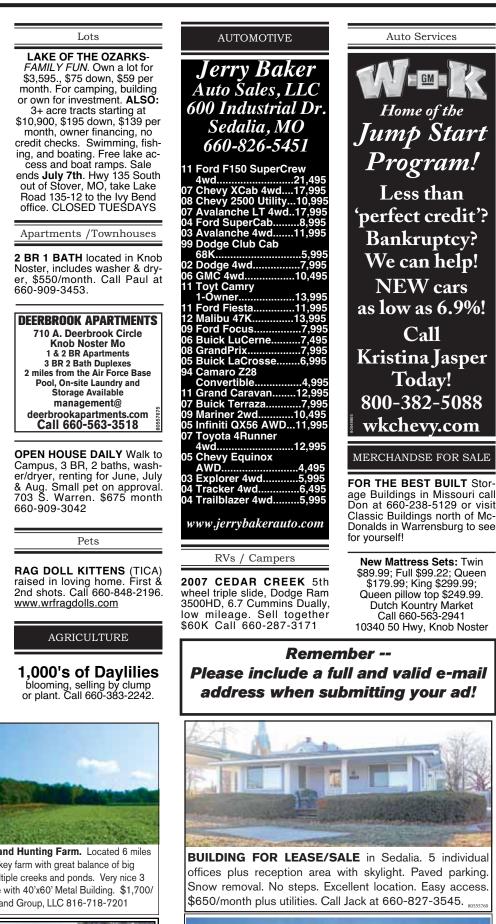
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